

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 6, 16, 26 and 32, and add new Claims 33, 34, and 35 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. to 5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) An information processing apparatus for having a printer driver which generates print data to be printed at a printing apparatus using a plurality of pages of drawing data input from an application, comprising:

entry means for entering at least one of information indicating the number of division to divide an output sheet and output sheet information about an output sheet to be used for printing via a setting screen of a printer driver, in executing a designation of N-page printing in which drawing data of N pages ( $N > 1$ , N is an integer) is printed on one print sheet;

physical N-page printing arranging means for dividing a physical page into N areas and for arranging the drawing data of each page at a center of each of equal N-divided areas of the physical page, wherein, if a physical sheet of the physical page is cut into N pieces of sheet, the print result of each page is arranged at the center of one piece of cut sheet;

printable area N-page printing arranging means for dividing a printable area, which is obtained by subtracting a print margin from the physical page, into N printable areas and for arranging the drawing data of each page in each of equal N-divided printable areas of the printable area on the physical page, wherein the print ~~results~~ result of

the drawing data of each page in printing N pages are arranged toward the center of the physical sheet;

determining means for determining which one of said physical N-page printing arranging means and said printable region N-page printing arranging means is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages on the basis of at least one of the information indicating the number of division and output sheet information entered via the setting screen of the printer driver by said entry means, in a case where a print request occurs for the designation of N-page printing ~~entered by said entry means~~; and

generation means for generating the print data by executing the determined one of said physical N-page printing arranging means and said printable region N-page printing arranging means.

7. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 6, further comprising condition acquiring means for acquiring a physical N-page printing condition,

wherein said determining means determines, based on the physical N-page printing condition acquired by said condition acquiring means, which one of said physical N-page printing arranging means and said printable region N-page printing arranging means is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages.

8. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein said physical N-page printing condition is information indicating which one of plural types of N-page printing is set to physical N-page printing.

9. (Previously presented) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said determining means determines, in a case where said output sheet information indicates 4-zone post card which is premised that a printed sheet is cut into N-sheets, to employ said physical N-page printing arranging means.

10. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein said condition acquiring means acquires said physical N-page printing condition from an external device.

11. to 15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) A printing control method of having a printer driver which generates print data to be printed at a printing apparatus using a plurality of pages of drawing data input from an application, comprising the steps of:

an entry step of entering at least one of information indicating the number of division to divide an output sheet and output sheet information about an output sheet to be used for printing via a setting screen of a printer driver, in executing a designation of N-page printing in which drawing data of N pages ( $N > 1$ , N is an integer) is printed on one print sheet;

a physical N-page printing arranging step of dividing a physical page into N areas and arranging the drawing data of each page at a center of each of equal N-divided areas of the physical page, wherein, if a physical sheet of the physical page is cut into N

pieces of sheet, the print result of each page is arranged at the center of one piece of cut sheet;

a printable area N-page printing arranging step of dividing a printable area, which is obtained by subtracting a print margin from the physical page, into N printable areas and arranging the drawing data of each page in each of equal N-divided printable areas of the printable area on the physical page, wherein the print results of the drawing data of each page in printing N pages are arranged toward the center of the physical sheet;

a determining step of determining which one of said physical N-page printing arranging step and said printable region N-page printing arranging step is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages on the basis of at least one of the information indicating the number of division and output sheet information entered via the setting screen of the printer driver in said entry step, in a case where a print request occurs for the designation of N-page printing ~~entered in said entry step~~; and

a generation step of generating the print data by executing the determined one of said physical N-page printing arranging step and said printable region N-page printing arranging step.

17. (Original) A printing control method according to Claim 16, further comprising a condition acquiring step of acquiring a physical N-page printing condition, wherein said determining step determines, based on the physical N-page printing condition acquired in said condition acquiring step, which one of said physical N-page printing arranging step and said printable region N-page printing arranging step is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages.

18. (Original) A printing control method according to Claim 17, wherein said physical N-page printing condition is information indicating which one of plural types of N-page printing is set to physical N-page printing.

19. (Previously presented) A printing control method according to Claim 16, wherein said determining means determines, in a case where said output sheet information indicates 4-zone post card which is premised that a printed sheet is cut into N-sheets, to employ said physical N-page printing arranging step.

20. (Original) An information processing method according to Claim 17, wherein said condition acquiring step acquires said physical N-page printing condition from an external device.

21. to 25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) A printing control program stored on a computer-readable medium and executed in a printing control device for having a printer driver which generates print data to be printed at a printing apparatus using a plurality of pages of drawing data input from an application, the printing control program including the steps of:

an entry step of entering at least one of information indicating the number of division to divide an output sheet and output sheet information about an output sheet to be used for printing via a setting screen of a printer driver, in executing a designation of

N-page printing in which drawing data of N pages ( $N > 1$ , N is an integer) is printed on one print sheet;

a physical N-page printing arranging step of dividing a physical page into N areas and arranging the drawing data of each page at a center of each of equal N-divided areas of the physical page, wherein, if a physical sheet of the physical page is cut into N pieces of sheet, the print result of each page is arranged at the center of one piece of cut sheet;

a printable area N-page printing arranging step of dividing a printable area, which is obtained by subtracting a print margin from the physical page, into N printable areas and arranging the drawing data of each page in each of equal N-divided ~~N-divided~~ printable areas of the printable area on the physical page, wherein the print ~~results~~ result of the drawing data of each page in printing N pages are arranged toward the center of the physical sheet by scaling-down;

a determining step of determining which one of said physical N-page printing arranging step and said printable region N-page printing arranging step is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages on the basis of at least one of the information indicating the number of division and output sheet information entered via the setting screen of the printer driver in said entry step, in a case where a print request occurs for the designation of N-page printing ~~entered in said entry step~~; and

a generating step of generating the print data by executing the determined one of said physical N-page printing arranging step and said printable region N-page printing arranging steps.

27. (Original) A printing control program according to Claim 26, further comprising a condition acquiring step of acquiring a physical N-page printing condition, wherein said determining step determines, based on the physical N-page printing condition acquired in said condition acquiring step, which one of said physical N-page printing arranging step and said printable region N-page printing arranging step is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages.

28. (Original) A printing control program according to Claim 27, wherein said physical N-page printing condition is information indicating which one of plural types of N-page printing is set to physical N-page printing.

29. (Original) A printing control program according to Claim 27, wherein said physical N-page printing condition is information indicating that physical N-page printing is set when a predetermined output sheet size is designated.

30. (Original) An information processing program according to Claim 27, wherein said condition acquiring step acquires said physical N-page printing condition from an external device.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium product storing a printing control program executed in a printing control device for having a printer driver which generates print data to be printed at a printing apparatus using a plurality of pages of drawing data input from an application, the printing control program including the steps of:

an entry step of entering at least one of information indicating the number of division to divide an output sheet and output sheet information about an output sheet to be used for printing via a setting screen of a printer driver, in executing a designation of N-page printing in which drawing data of N pages ( $N > 1$ , N is an integer) is printed on one print sheet;

a physical N-page printing arranging step of dividing a physical page into N areas and arranging the drawing data of each page at a center of each of equal N-divided areas of the physical page, wherein, if a physical sheet of the physical page is cut into N pieces of sheet, the print result of each page is arranged at the center of one piece of cut sheet;

a printable area N-page printing arranging step of dividing a printable area, which is obtained by subtracting a print margin from the physical page, into N printable areas and arranging the drawing data of each page in each of equal N-divided printable areas of the printable area on the physical page, wherein the print ~~results~~ result of the drawing data of each page in printing N pages are arranged toward the center of the physical sheet;



a determining step of determining which one of said physical N-page printing arranging step and said printable region N-page printing arranging step is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages on the basis of output sheet information, in a case where a print request occurs for the designation of N-page printing entered in said entry step; and

a generating step of generating the print data by executing the determined one of said physical N-page printing arranging step and said printable region N-page printing arranging step.

33. (New) An information processing apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said determining means determines which one of said physical N-page printing arranging means and said printable region N-page printing arranging means is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages on the basis of one of the information indicating the number of division, an output sheet size and an output sheet entered by said entry means.

34. (New) A printing control method according to Claim 16, wherein said determining step determines which one of said physical N-page printing arranging step and said printable region N-page printing arranging step is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages on the basis of one of the information indicating the number of division, an output sheet size and an output sheet entered in said entry step.

35. (New) A printing control program according to Claim 32, wherein said determining step determines which one of said physical N-page printing arranging step and said printable region N-page printing arranging step is employed to execute processing for arranging the pages on the basis of one of the information indicating the number of division, an output sheet size and an output sheet entered in said entry step.